

CLAIMS

1. Medium for cultivating and producing mites, and especially mites belonging to at least one of the following species : *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus*, *Dermatophagoides farinae*, *Blomia kulagini* or *tropicalis*, *Pyroglyphus africanus*, and *Euroglyphus maynei*, characterised in that it is free from human or animal elements or proteins and comprises, in effective amounts, a plurality of amino acids in particulate form with a particle size of less than 250 μm , or in lyophilised form.

2. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises amino acids obtained by grinding amino acids.

3. Medium according to claim 2, characterised in that it also comprises lyophilised amino acids and/or amino acids obtained commercially.

4. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises lyophilised amino acids and amino acids obtained commercially.

5. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that it contains salts.

6. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that the mixture of amino acids contains at least 50% of amino acids which naturally make up proteins or the equivalents thereof.

7. Medium according to claim 1 characterised in that the mixture of amino acids reproduces the spectrum of amino acids that make up keratin or the stratum corneum.

8. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that the mixture of amino acids reproduces the spectrum of amino acids present in shrimp eggs or in soya.

9. Medium according to claim 7, characterised in that the respective proportions of the amino acids are similar to the quantitative proportions of the amino acids and salts in substances such as keratin or the stratum corneum or shrimp eggs or soya.

10. Medium according to claim 8, characterised in that the respective proportions of the amino acids are similar to the quantitative proportions of the amino acids and salts in substances such as keratin or the stratum corneum or shrimp eggs or soya.

11. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that it also contains other conventional elements of nutrient media for mites, intended to provide supplementary nutrition and/or give the medium a texture suitable for the development and multiplication of the mites.

12. Medium according to claim 11, characterised in that it also contains wheat germs and/or yeast, especially baker's yeast, and/or cyanocobalamine and/or d-biotin.

13. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that it may contain soya.

14. Medium according to claim 1, characterised in that it contains at least 50% of the following amino acids:

- L-alanine
- L-arginine
- L-aspartic acid
- L-cysteine/cystine
- L-glutamic acid
- glycine
- L-histidine
- L-isoleucine
- L-leucine

- L-Lysine
- L-methionine
- L-phenylalanine
- L-proline
- L-serine
- L-threonine
- L-tryptophane
- L-tyrosine
- L-valine

15. Medium according to claim 14, characterised in that it contains the amino acids in the following proportions, adding up to a total of 93.711 g :

- L-alanine 3.8 g
- L-arginine 4.2 g
- L-aspartic acid 5.2 g
- L-cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate
expressed as L-cysteine/L-cystine 1.7 g
- L-glutamic acid 11.5 g
- glycine 2.7 g
- L-histidine 3.1 g
- L-isoleucine 5.0 g
- L-leucine 6.7 g
- L-lysine hydrochloride, expressed as L-lysine 5.0 g
- L-methionine 2.4 g
- L-phenylalanine 7.0 g
- L-proline 10.3 g
- L-serine 9.6 g
- L-threonine 3.8 g
- L-tryptophane 1.3 g
- L-tyrosine 0.6 g
- L-valine 5.5 g
- calcium chloride dihydrate 0.44 g
- magnesium sulphate heptahydrate 0.493 g
- sodium hydroxide 2.6 g

- potassium hydroxide 0.70 g
- potassium chloride 0.078 g

16. Process for cultivating and producing mites, and especially mites belonging to at least one of the following species : *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus*, *Dermatophagoides farinae*, *Blomia kulagini* or *tropicalis*, *Pyroglyphus africanus*, and *Euroglyphus maynei*, characterised in that the mites are cultivated on a medium according to claim 1.

17. Process according to claim 16, characterised in that the culture medium, containing the mixture of amino acids, is brought to a suitable level of humidity, normal for the mites being cultivated, and maintained at the appropriate usual temperature.

18. Process according to claim 18, characterised in that cultivation is carried out for between 2 and 5 months.

19. Process for obtaining an allergenic preparation, characterised in that the allergens are extracted from the culture according to claim 16.